**MMS Guitar (RTI) Information Sheet**

Dear MMS Parent/Guardian,

The MMS Band Programme will be adding a guitar programme in the 2021/22 school year as an enrichment (RTI) opportunity for our Band students. As your child has expressed and interest in participating in this option, the following is intended to provide you (and your child) with information regarding this new feature of the Band Programme and the expectations/requirements of participation. Please take a few moments to review the following information with your child and provide the requested signature and appropriate e-mail address should his/her participation meet with your approval.

1. **Description of Guitar Programming**

As outlined in the Band Handbook which was distributed to all band students in their first band classes of the year (also available on the Band Program Website: [www.mmsbandprogram.weebly.com](http://www.mmsbandprogram.weebly.com)), the Guitar Programme is an enrichment opportunity available to any grade 7 band students wishing to supplement their band experiences beyond the regular concert band curriculum. If successful, the program would continue into the grade 8 level next year. Participants will be exposed to several styles/genres of musical performance (starting mainly with Classic Rock, Classical, and Jazz, etc.) as well as to the concepts involved in musical form and improvisation: depending on the amount of student interest in addition to their additional capabilities - i.e., singing, drumming, keyboard, etc.- the group may take on a variety of forms, including Guitar Ensemble, Rock Band, etc. The guitar ensembles therefore afford students much enhanced opportunities for greater depths of the skills, knowledge, and understanding with regards to their individual instruments within the Concert Band Programme and to their overall enjoyment in the process of becoming fluent music makers.

***Students need not own a guitar in order to participate. The school will provide interested students with a guitar and home practice amplifier (a deposit of $100 will be applied and refunded at the end of the school year provided the instrument and accompanying accessories are returned in good working order).*** Please indicate **i**n the space provide at the end of this document if you already own a guitar.

1. **Rehearsal Schedules (Attendance Expectations)**

Rehearsals for this ensemble will be held twice per school cycle during the daily scheduled RTI periods. Attendance at all rehearsals is considered mandatory throughout the school year: *participation in the Guitar Programming is considered a commitment and, although RTI activities may fluctuate throughout other areas of the overall school curriculum at different stages throughout the school year, students cannot drop in and out of this activity. This should be seriously considered prior to a student deciding to participate.*

1. **Academic and Citizenship Expectations**

As with student participation within any MVSD extra-curricular or enrichment programming, participating students are expected to meet their academic potential in all classes and observe acceptable standards of personal conduct both in school and within the overall community. Due to the fact that most (if not all) students are learning secondary instruments within this ensemble as well as the more complex nature of instrumental techniques required of guitar performance, pull-out lessons/sectionals may be scheduled within the school day (if needed and/ordepending on the nature of the ensemble). The director will communicate with students and classroom teachers in these situations in order to find the least “disruptive” times; however, students are expected to make-up any work missed in regular classes in a timely fashion and to ensure that there is no negative impact in their academic performance due to these lessons/sectionals. Participating students will also be expected to ensure they are contributing positively to both the Guitar Ensemble as well as the regular Concert Band in which they participate.

 Please feel free to contact Mr. Monaghan at the school with any questions/concerns you may

 have.

Parents/Guardians and students are asked to sign in the spaces provided below to acknowledge that they have read and understand the information presented above. (Please provide a parent/guardian e-mail address in order to allow us to create a Guitar e-mail group in order to keep you reminded/informed of any rehearsal cancelations and/or information items which may develop throughout the year).

**Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Parent/Guardian e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **I already own a working guitar I can use in order to participate.**

* Circle one: **Y es No** (If “yes” please indicate by underlining ACOUSTIC or ELECTRIC)